GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:484
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2007
POLICY ON EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any policy for the States to encourage the export of agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise and product-wise details of the agricultural products exported and the revenue earned therefrom during the last three years;

(d) whether any proposal regarding export of agricultural products from the States are pending with the Government;

(e) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. As part of measures to promote export of agri products the Government has policies and schemes such as Agri Export Zones (AEZs) and Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) with the participation of inter-alia of the State Governments. The AEZs envisage developing and sourcing raw material, its processing, packaging, leading to final export of a particular agri produce. 60 AEZs have been set up in 20 states in the country various agri products with a projected investment of Rs.1717.95 crore and export of Rs. 1182.47 crore over a period of 5 years. ASIDE aims to involve the states in the export effort by providing them assistance for creation of appropriate infrastructure for the development and growth of export. The Government of India has suggested to the State Governments that they may spend 10% of the allocation under ASIDE scheme on the proposals relating to filling of the critical infrastructure gap in AEZs.

(c) The details of the major agri products exported and the revenue earned therefrom during the last 3 years is given in the Annex I. State-wise export data in respect of all commodities is at Annex II.
(d),(e)&(f) State level export promotion committee (SLEPC) headed by Chief Secretary of the State approves all projects including project for promotion of exports from Agriculture sector under state component of ASIDE Scheme. List of the project proposals and the AEZs are at Annex III.